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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

ROUTING SLIP

0:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
	DCI				
2	DDCI		x /		
3	EXDIR				
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI		X 3		
6	DDA		-		
7	DDO				
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC		X 4		
10	GC		-		
11	IG			3 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	
12	Compt				
13	D/OLL				
14	D/PAO				
15	VC/NIC				
16	NIO/SP		X 5	_	
17	D/OSWR		X 6		
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Remarks		

Executive Secretary
30 Dec 86

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Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

December 17, 1986

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Mr. Robert M. Gates
Deputy Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Gates:

I read with great pleasure your statement "The Soviets and SDI" which you gave on November 25 to the International Forum in the Bay Area. It is an excellent statement and indicates real progress in the thinking of the Agency.

In the spirit of your statement, I would like to suggest further inquiries of the effects of Soviet strategic defense and Soviet civil defense on the effectiveness of our retaliation. Continuing efforts of the Russians in both these fields can indeed reduce the deterrent effect of any retaliation. In strategic defense, I consider it most important to find out about both the potential and the actual development and deployment of the SA12 defensive missiles. I hope to have an opportunity to discuss several specific questions with you and your people in connection with ballistic missile defense.

Your speech in the Bay Area was also remarkable because it told the public more significant things about civil defense than I ever heard before. There is great and relevant interest among supporters of SDI in Congress in information concerning Soviet defensive measures.

Hoping to have the opportunity to follow-up on these topics soon.

Sincerely

Edward Teller

ET:js

cc: Bill Casey

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